

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY OF ALAMEDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2006 7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Present: Commission Members: Dahlberg, Lindsey, Schmitz, Stieg (arrived immediately after roll call), Wetzork and Zuppan

Absent: None

Vacancies: Two

Staff: Eric Fonstein and Rosemary Valeska

1. Introduction of new EDC Member, Lorre Zuppan

Chairman Kelly welcomed Commission Member Zuppan. He also announced that Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft was no longer on the EDC, as she had been recently appointed to the Planning Board. Chairman Kelly also stated that he was awaiting clarification regarding Commission Member Trevithick's reported resignation from the EDC.

MINUTES

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 19, 2006

Chairman Kelly noted that there were no February minutes to approve, as that meeting had been cancelled. Moved (Wetzork), seconded and unanimous (with abstentions by Lindsey and Stieg) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 19, 2006 as submitted.

CONSENT CALENDAR

(None)

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC

(No public speaker slips were submitted.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(None)

NEW BUSINESS

3. Introduction of Cathy Woodbury, Planning and Building Director

Chairman Kelly announced that Ms. Woodbury was unable to attend the meeting and that this item would be rescheduled.

4. Presentation by Miriam Delagrange, Reconstruction Specialist, regarding the City of Alameda's Rehab and Façade Programs

Ms. Delagrange gave a PowerPoint presentation and distributed materials to the Commission Members regarding the Housing Rehab, Rental Rehab, Substantial Rehab, Façade Grant Program and Non-Profit Rehab programs. Commission Member Stieg commended the Development Services Department's work with the Façade Grant program. This item was presented for information only; no EDC action was requested.

REPORTS

5. Oral Report: Commission Member Wetzork – Chair of the Economic Development Strategic Plan Subcommittee

Commission Member Wetzork reported that even though attendance was sparse, there was plenty of input provided at the two community workshops held on February 23 and March 2. A follow-up meeting of the subcommittee will be scheduled soon. He took this opportunity to thank his fellow subcommittee members and Development Services staff for their attendance and support at the workshops. Commission Member Dahlberg expressed his thanks to Jennifer Ott, Bruce Knopf and Eric Fonstein of Development Services. Report accepted.

6. Oral Report: Commission Member Schmitz – EDC representative to the Multi-Modal Transportation Task Force

Commission Member Schmitz reported that there had been no task force meetings since his last report. The task force will be reconvened when the consultant's work product is ready for review. Report accepted.

7. Oral Report: Commission Member Wetzork – EDC representative to the Pedestrian Task Force

Commission Member Wetzork reported that the task force had met the previous evening and that they were focused on broad policies that will address needs for capital improvements to help pedestrians. He stated that another meeting would be scheduled in the near future. Report accepted.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

8. Public Works Department Quarterly Report – Primary Activities, dated February 16, 2006

9. Redevelopment – Building Better Communities – February 2006

10. Redevelopment – Building Better Communities – March 2006

In reference to Item No. 8, Commission Member Zuppan commented that there was a problem with flooding at the dog park. Mr. Fonstein stated that he would relay this to the Public Works Dept.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF

- Commission Member Schmitz noted that changing nature of commercial real estate and the need to facilitate good projects.
- Commission Member Stieg comments:
 - Expressed thanks to Development Services for their assistance with the new newsracks.
 - Expressed thanks to Building Official Greg McFann for facilitating the Otaez restaurant grand opening.
- Commission Member Wetzork noted that the City Council would be reviewing the theater project on March 21 and encouraged EDC members to show their support.
- Chairman Kelly's comments:
 - Alameda will be designated as a Coast Guard City at the City Council's March 21 meeting.
 - Noted the BRAC insert that was enclosed with the previous week's Alameda Journal.
 - Requested an update report on activity at Bridgeside to include timelines and milestones. Mr. Fonstein stated that the City Manager's office had re-instituted quarterly project update reports and that the EDC will be copied on these.
- Commission Member Dahlberg requested an informal briefing regarding Alameda Point negotiations. Mr. Fonstein stated that a presentation by Debbie Potter, Base Reuse and Community Programs Manager, was scheduled for the EDC's April meeting.
- Mr. Fonstein reported:
 - On March 21, the City Council will be asked to approve the theater project final designs as well and to authorize the call for bids for the theater rehab and parking structure projects.
 - The Council will also be making appointments to the Film Commission on March 21.
 - The Mayor may recommend an appointment to fill an EDC vacancy on March 21.

- Robek's is undergoing final improvements with completion expected by the second week of April.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Fonstein
Development Coordinator

EF:rv